

Message Text

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TAGS: AORG, OEXC, UNESCO

SUBJECT: UNESCO FUNDS FOR U.S. NATCOM PROGRAM REQUEST

REF: PARIS 07984

1. WHITE HOUSE TODAY PROVIDED FOLLOWING ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS IN REFTEL REGARDING CONFERENCE ON MENTAL RETARDATION:

A. THE THREE PRINCIPAL OTHER SPONSORS ARE THE PRESIDENT'S COMMITTEE ON MENTAL RETARDATION, INSTITUTO PANAMENO DE HABILITACION ESTECIAL (PRINCIPAL INSTITUTE ON RETARDATION SERVICES IN PANAMA) AND INTER-AMERICAN CHILDREN'S INSTITUTE (PART OF OAS).

B. THE ORGANIZATION IS BEING CARRIED OUT IN COOPERATION WITH SPECIALISTS THROUGHOUT THE AMERICAS AND THE CARIBBEAN. PROGRAMMING IS BEING DONE BY THE INTER-AMERICAN CHILDREN'S INSTITUTE WITH MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION BY THE INSTITUTO PANAMENO DE HABILITACION ESTECIAL. THE PROGRAM AND PREPARATION OF AGENDA IS CURRENTLY BEING WORKED ON BY UNCLASSIFIED

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THE PRESIDENT'S COMMITTEE.

C. THE THEME OF THE CONFERENCE IS CURRENT NEEDS AND STRATEGIES FOR ACTION IN THE FIELD OF MENTAL RETARDATION. DELEGATES WILL BE ABLE TO RETURN TO THEIR COUNTRIES BETTER PREPARED TO DEVELOP MATERIALS, PROGRAM AIDS AND MANPOWER

TRAINING PROGRAMS IN THIS FIELD. EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS WILL BE DEVELOPED FOR PARENTS OF MENTALLY RETARDED OR HANDICAPPED CHILDREN AND FOR ADMINISTRATORS OF PROGRAMS. THE ROLE OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES IN MENTAL RETARDATION WILL BE ONE FOCUS OF THE CONFERENCE.

D. ATTENDANCE WILL BE APPROXIMATELY 1,000 PROFESSIONALS IN THE FIELD OF WORKING WITH THE HANDICAPPED AND MENTALLY RETARDED. ATTENDANCE WILL BE PRINCIPALLY FROM LA.

E. ADVISE IO/UCS IF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REQUIRED. INGERSOLL

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